

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 15, 2015 Contact: Betsy Kirkeby, (406) 444-3343

Montana State Parks Snowmobile Program Seeks Public Comment on Proposed 2015-2016 Grant Awards

-Public Comments due by Friday, July 31 at 5pm-

(Helena, MT) – Montana State Parks (stateparks.mt.gov) is seeking public comment on recommended funding levels for 2015-2016 Montana Snowmobile Program grant applications. This year, the Montana Snowmobile program received 26 grant applications and all are recommended to be funded, at some level. Public comment is due by Friday, July 31 at 5pm.

The Montana Snowmobile Program grant funding is administered by Montana State Parks and allocated with review and recommendations by the citizen Snowmobile Advisory Committee.

Approximately \$390,000 in grooming grant funding is available for the 2015-2016 winter season; snowmobile organization requests were nearly \$475,000

The program is funded with a percentage of the state gas tax paid by snowmobile users and snowmobile registration fees, and is completely separate from Montana State Parks funding sources and revenues.

A list of the proposed 2015-2016 snowmobile grant applicants and recommended funding levels is available online at

http://stateparks.mt.gov/recreation/snowmobileGrants.html.

Public comments are due by Friday, July 31 at 5pm.

To comment online, visit direct link: http://stateparks.mt.gov/news/publicNotices/snowmobile-grants/pn 0003.html or go to the website: stateparks.mt.gov click on 'Public Notices' on the right-hand task bar.

The public can also <u>email</u> comments to <u>snowmobilegrants@mt.gov</u> or send comments by regular mail to: Snowmobile Program Grants c/o Montana State Parks, P.O. Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701.

The full grant applications are available for review by request. Contact: <u>Seth McArthur, Montana</u> Snowmobile Program Manager, (406) 444-3753.

For more information about the Montana Snowmobile Program visit: http://stateparks.mt.gov/recreation/snowmobileProgram.html

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